

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 122

By Southerland

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Sarah Cooper on her selection as the 2016-2017 Hamblen County Grades 5-8 Teacher of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those outstanding teachers who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Sarah Cooper is one such estimable educator, who has distinguished herself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Sarah Cooper has been selected as the 2016-2017 Hamblen County Grades 5-8 Teacher of the Year, an honor most befitting her outstanding tenure as a teacher, as it recognizes the positive influence she has had on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Cooper teaches fifth grade English language arts and social studies at Fairview-Marguerite Elementary School; she earned her bachelor's degree at East Tennessee State University and her master's degree at Carson-Newman University; and

WHEREAS, she is an extremely talented and compassionate educator who works assiduously to motivate her students to reach their full potential, both as scholars and as citizens; and

WHEREAS, a leader in her field, Ms. Cooper has made presentations at the local, state, and national levels; she shares classroom lessons and strategies to help other educators on her blog, *A Rocky Top Teacher*, and she manages professional Twitter and Instagram accounts that she uses as professional learning networks to collaborate with teachers, administrators, communities, and organizations locally and globally; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Cooper is an inspiration to her colleagues and students alike, and her friendship and counsel are highly valued by those who are fortunate to know her; and

WHEREAS, Sarah Cooper truly epitomizes the ideal of the dedicated teacher who is wholly committed to the highest precepts of public service and quality education for all, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Sarah Cooper on being chosen as the 2016-2017 Hamblen County Grades 5-8 Teacher of the Year, commend her exceptional service to the children of Tennessee, salute her professional expertise and personal excellence, and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.